PS635
Z9 H8782

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
0 017 400 596 5

Hollinger Corp.
pH 8.5

PS635
.Z9 H8782

FALSE CHARMS,

A Comedy in Three Acts,

BY P. G. HUBERT. of
Stamford Conn.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
COPYRIGHT
No. 2370 K
1880.
CITY OF WASHINGTON

Entered according to Act of Congress, A. D. 1879, in the office of the Librarian of Congress at Washington, D. C., in conformity with the copyright laws of the United States.

(Stamford, Ct.
1879)

PS635
.Z9 H8782

False Charms

A Comedy in three acts

Characters

Lady Highflier - a youthful widow of sixty.
Lucy - - - - - - - her grand child 18 years old
Fleurette - - - - - - - French of Lady Highflier
Count Fledgeling - a young beau of sixty five
Marquis De Neckie - his ward and nephew.
Pat. O'Flaherty - - - Valet of Fledgeling.

Act I

Lady Highflier's boudoir - Lady H. sits before her glass, Fleurette dresses her hair

Lady H. Let that little curl fall gracefully on one side.

Fl. Yez miladie -

L.H. No, no - lower down - so, à la négligé.

Fl. Ah, miladie she has so much taste!

L.H. How will that do?

Fl. (clasps her hands, throws up her eyes), Charmant! délicieuse! - Ven meelord Fledgeling he se miladie he will be pairfectly enraptured!

L.H. Nonsense child.

Fl. Meeladie, she will be a vair grand ladie - she will be the most beautiful countess in Paris - she will be vair, vair rich - she will wear the great Fledgeling diamonds

L.H. Diamonds! - did you see them Fleurette?

Fl. No, meeladie I not see them, but Mistair Patrick the gentleman of Count Fledgeling he tell me they are superb!

L.H. What else did he say Fleurette?

Fl. Oh, he tell me the Count he roll in wealth! Forty thousand a year! Forty thousand!! meelady!

L.H. That will do child, you know I detest gossip - Now tie on my sash.

F. Vich sash, meeladie, ze pink or ze blue?

L.H. Let me have the same as you put on Lucy - you know we always dress alike.

F. Yez, meeladie and Miss Lucy they look precisely like two young sistairs.

L.H. We are said to be much alike.

F. So vair much alike that it is impossible - quite impossible to tell ze one from the other.

L.H. You think so Fleurette?

Fl. I cannot tell - It is ze truth - Except I look vair, vair close (looks) Zen I see the form of meeladie it is more full, more round, more beautifully graceful - Zat is all -

L. H. That will do, Fleurette - (smiles) Bye the by, you may have my blue silk dress.

F. Oh, thanks, meelady (takes up dress) It is a beautiful dress - thanks, meeladie.

L. H. (Looks at clock) Dear me, nearly twelve - the Count may be here any moment - Oh! Fleurette how my heart beats! (hand to heart) Water, Fleurette.

F. (Hands water) Meeladie must be calm, she must not get excited or she will ruin her beautiful complexion.

L. H. Oh, child, How should you understand the emotions of love! Count Fledgeling is so excitable - so violent -

F. The old gentleman he feel -

L. H. Old! what do you mean girl - old! - Well - h'm - ha - (crossly) Let me see that blue silk, - I think I shall wear it again - old indeed!

F. (Sadly, hands dress) Yez, meeladie.

L. H. Count Fledgeling is not over forty five years of age! - old indeed - well really -

F. Forty five! - Is ze Count forty five! Oh, ze Count can never be forty five! Vy he not look forty!

L. H. You said - old gentleman -

F. Ah, meeladie, she not understand - She interrupt me - She not let me conclude - Old for meeladie I mean - old in comparison with meeladie.

L. H. Nonsense child -

F. Vy, ze other day, ven meeladie and ze Count they walk in ze grand promenade, I hear a young gentleman say "Who is zat lovely girl, leaning on ze arm of her father"

L. H. You did, Fleurette!

F. Yez, meeladie, and he follow meeladie all ze way -

L. H. Oh, the wicked creature! Did you know him, Fleurette?

F. No, meeladie, I not know him - but he was a vair fine young man, with blue eyes -

L. H. Blue eyes! - oh -

F. And blond hair -

L. H. Blond hair! ha - Oh, my heart, my heart! - Blond hair! - water, Fleurette (F. gives water and fans her) - there - there - that will do - it is passed -

You may have the blue silk dress, Fleurette.

F. Oh, thanks, meeladie (takes dress)

L.H. Poor Fledgeling - he is rather old it is true, but, forty thousand a year, and then he loves me so (ring) Ah! 'tis he! quick Fleurette - my teeth (puts in teeth) now go child (ex F.) I hear his step (hides toilette articles, reclines affectedly)

Voice outside - Yes, me darlin - A billy ducks it is, to be delivered post haste and in sacrecy.

F. (outside) Don't mistair Patrick! - don't! - I'll scream -

Voice - Bad luck but it's the letther you have crushed altogether - and the flowers too -

L.H. A letter - flowers -

Fl. (outside) You not touch me! - go away! -

L.H. (calls) Fleurette! Fleurette!!

F. (outside) There now! - you nasty - impudent! - yes, meeladie, I come (Enter F. with large bouquet) - See, meeladie, a beautiful bouquet -

L.H. The letter, Fleurette - quick, the letter -

F. Ze lettair - - ah, yes - ze lettair (produces letter)

Lady H. Well, - give it to me child -

F. (Embarrassed) It is for Miss Lucy (aside) Oh, ze stupid, stupid man!

L.H. Lucy! impossible! who could send flowers and write to that child?

F. It is written on ze lettair "Miss Lucy Highflier"

L.H. This is outrageous! indecent! How dare you tell me -

F. I cannot say - I cannot help -

L.H. Hold your tongue - give me that letter (takes it) Impossible, no one would dare - there is some error -

F. Vair likely - vair possible - Meeladie she look precisely like Miss Lucy, she walk ze same, she speak ze same she dress ze same - she have ze same color of hair, ze same fresh complexion - she have the same name "Lucy". I tell meeladie just now, I cannot tell ze difference - indeed I cannot -

L.H. Yes, I am older than Lucy - rather older -

F. Older! ha, ha, ha, I cannot see older - nobody can see older -

L.H. I am over thirty -

F. Thirty! Oh, meeladie is joking - she is laughing - I will nevair, nevair believe that meeladie is thirty.

L.H. Hush child, hush, that is nonsense - Bye the by Fleurette, you may have my pink shawl.

F. Oh, thanks - Meeladie is too kind - it is a beautiful shawl (puts it on.)

L.H. Then you really think this letter is intended for me?

F. Cairtainly - and now I remembair parfaitement - yesterday as meeladie she descend from her carriage - the young Marquis de Necktie he look at meeladie from his window opposite, and -

L.H. Necktie! Count Fledgeling's nephew! you don't say he dared look at me Fleurette?

F. Oh, yes, meeladie, I am vair, vair certain.

L.H. Oh, the wretch!

F. He look a look full of love - so (casts glance)

L.H. (screams) Oh! the horrible monster! - How did he look, Fleurette?

F. He look a look full of passion - so! - (casts glance)

L.H. Don't! - don't! - I'll faint! - you don't say the wicked wretch looked like that!

F. Yes, meeladie, in vair truth - and he beckon to me, so - and he say -

L.H. What did he say?

F. He say: "Who is the lovely creature?."

L.H. Oh! the wicked, wicked man -

F. And he kiss his hand, so -

L.H. Kiss! (screams and falls back) Oh! ah! - water help (F. supports her etc) Oh! these men, these men these wicked, wicked men, will they never give me peace?

F. See what is in ze lettair, meeladie.

L.H. I dare not (opens letter) Oh! (screams) the wretch he asks for an interview!

F. When, meeladie?

L.H. This very day, at four o'clock - he will be here

F. Meeladie will see him?

L.H. No, that is, yes - that is - oh, what shall I do! who knows what might happen if I drive the unfortunate man to despair!

F. I did know a man once, and he did take poison.

L.H. Poison!! Oh, Fleurette run! - say that he may come - *say* that I will see him - say any thing to calm the desperate creature.

F. Yes, meeladie - I run, I fly - (moves to go)

L.H. Stop - (F. returns) should he propose an elopement - say that I will never, never elope.

F. Yez, meeladie (moves to go)

L.H. Stop - (F. returns) Be gentle with him, Fleurette - but I will never, never elope -

F. Yez, meeladie - (moves to door)

L.H. Stop - (F. returns) I fear this has been too much for me - I am pale - I think a little more color! —

F. Yez, meeladie - (puts on rouge) now meeladie she look little one beautiful rose! (looks admiringly)

L.H. Ah, child you do not know what we have to suffer - what we have to pay for beauty — now go -

F. Yez, meeladie, I run -

L.H. Stop - a little touch on the eyebrows - Eh? what think you?

F. (Looks critically) Ah, ze taste of meeladie, it is exquisite - it is pairfect - yez, a leetel touch (paints) so - see, meeladie -

L.H. Yes, that will do, that will do - now go, child (Ex F.) Ah, should the Count ever suspect our love, what would become of us? - I tremble at the thought - Necktie is his nephew and his ward - Now I understand why he so studiously kept my Necktie from my sight - but my heart has spoken - I love him! - Necktie, I am thine! no power on earth shall part us - - - And yet forty thousand a year and the Count loves me so - I shall I ever have the heart to drive my unfortunate Fledgeling to despair - Oh! these men, these men! why will they all admire and love me so? Oh! my heart - my poor heart! (Ent. Lucy - rushes up and wants to kiss her - Lady H. pushes her back) Take care, child! take care! It is not dry!

L. What is not dry grand mamma?

Lady H. H'm - ha - hold your tongue miss! How dare you? (Looks in glass) See what you have done! You sweep into the room like a whirlwind - you upset every thing - you have not the least thought - the least consideration for the state of my nerves!

L. But dear grand mamma —

L.H. How dare you, miss! - Have I not strictly forbidden you to call me by that odious name!

L. But dear grand m—

L.H. Again! (screams) Oh, she will be the death of me! Remember, Miss, that I am not your grandmamma! – when I married your grandfather, I was but a child – an infant!

L. I only wanted to kiss you.

L.H. Kiss! the word is indelicate, the thought immodest, unmaidenly – All such rough, familiar demonstrations are vulgar – A child of your age on entering a room should take two steps, so – then courtsy, so – and advancing gently, thus should bend, so – and, there, you may kiss my hand – (Extends tip of gloved fingers, which Lucy kisses – Ent. Fleurette)

F. I have delivered the message of meeladie.

L.H. (Points to Lucy) Hush –

L. What message, Fleurette?

L.H. How often must I tell you miss, that children should never ask questions –

F. Only to the coachman, Miss – Meelady she want her carriage

L. You are going out gr… madam – may I go with you?

L.H. No, miss –

L. (Sees bouquet) Oh! what lovely flowers! (takes it) where did you get them, gr…. madam?

L.H. (takes them from her) Never mind, child – the were sent me by a friend – a very dear friend (sighs)

L. But who? – Count Fledgeling?

L.H. (Contemptuously) Count Fledgeling indeed –

L. Old Lady Rushton?

L.H. Old Lady Rushton! hahaha, very good – ha, ha ha – yes, yes, certainly – old Lady Rushton, ha, ha (Card drops from bouquet) (Lucy picks it up)

L. Frederic! – Oh, he has been here – he has told you –

F. (Crosses at back and stops her) Hush, she knows nothing.

L.H. Been here? – told me? – what do you mean, child?

F. Ah – meeladie, it is a leetel secret – Miss Lucy she make some beautiful wax flowers for the birthday of meeladie and she expect little Frederic the Florist to bring a bouquet for model, that is all, meeladie (aside to Lucy) Sh! –

L.H. Ah, that is all – Frederic did you say? – what Frederic!

F. Vy, the leetle florist in the Grand rue.

L.H. Nonsense child – his name is Charles –

F. Charles – ah, yes, meeladie, certainement, Charles – but his brother –

L.H. His brother –

F. [illegible], his brother [illegible].
L.H. Oh, he has a brother!
F. Oh, yes, meeladie, certainement.
L.H. Strange coincidence.
F. (Looks out of window) Oh, meeladie, I see the carriage of Count Fledgeling coming down the street.
L.H. Heavens! what shall I do! what shall I say to this unfortunate man! If I forsake him his despair will be [illegible]!
F. The carriage stops at ze door, meeladie. (rings) I go [illegible]
L.H. Now miss, leave me - go to the nursery -
L. I would so like to stay, gr--- madam -
L.H. Stay! absurd child!
L. I want to hear all about the grand ball the Count went to last night - he promised me -
L.H. Promised you! what do you mean miss!
L. Oh, he is such a nice old gentleman - we had such a pleasant talk the other night -
L.H. You ought to be ashamed, miss - you, a mere child - a [illegible]
L. Indeed dear gr--- Count Fledgeling does not think me such a child - when I told him my age -
L.H. (horrified) Told him your age! Such immodest conduct! I blush for you -
L. He said such pleasant things - he said I [illegible] to appear and the whole world would be at my feet -
L.H. He did! - he dared! I blush for you, miss! - the world, at your feet - [illegible] - a mere child! - the [illegible] wretch! - such conduct is frightful! I [illegible] I won't - I - I won't!! go to the nursery [illegible] go - at once I say (pushes her out [illegible])
(Enter Fledgeling approaches with [illegible])
Fled. Light of my eyes - Charmer of my [illegible] -
L.H. (drawing herself up) To what am I indebted for this [illegible] visit, my lord?
F. Load stone of my being, why so cruel? (tries to take her hand)
L.H. (drawing back) Keep your [illegible] words for one younger than I, sir - (aside) At her feet indeed -
F. Cruel! who in this rolling world could [illegible] be fairer! [illegible] What is the matter? can the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] thy scorn? I [illegible] thy beauty [illegible] thus, on my [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] a weak, foolish giddy [illegible]
[illegible]
H. [illegible]! (supports her with effort.)
L. [illegible] will always love your poor Lucy?
H. [illegible] would I bear thee to the remotest limits of eternity!
L. My [illegible] —
My [illegible] —
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] (Leans against him.)
[illegible] only [illegible] expand! [illegible]
[illegible] of love growing [illegible]
[illegible] with thee, [illegible]
[illegible] highest realms of ecstasy!
[illegible] Heaven [illegible]!
[illegible]
[illegible] thought would [illegible]
[illegible] my wealth & [illegible].
[illegible]
[illegible] & knows that I alone [illegible]
[illegible] (aside.) [illegible]
[illegible] 'tis not [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

L.H. And rose bushes –
F. How poetical.
L.H. How sweet –
F. How romantic –
L.H. Gentle thought.
F. Guileless innocence –
L.H. ~~Poultry~~ Poultry –
F. Lambs –
L.H. Wild flowers..
F. Turtle doves –
L.H. Ha-a –
F. I will work for you –
L.H. And I will prepare our homely fare
F. And when I return from my daily labor you will be standing at the cabin door waiting for me. (aside) I see, she is just trying me
L.H. How romantically charming –
F. I will press you to my manly breast (embraces
L.H. (screams) Ha support me –
F. Then I will take up my flute (takes flute) and we will dance (they dance)
L.H. Innocent joys – and the lambs?
F. Will dance on the green sward with us
L.H. Could he possibly be in earnest – I must try him (aloud) How strange that you should have thought me wealthy is it not?
F. Very – very – Oh, very strange (aside) Could she possibly mean what she says? But no, it cannot be I am too well informed (aloud) So strange ha ha ha – So very strange, and that you should have thought me rich – how singular!
L.H. Very, ha, ha, ha – So absurd! (they both laugh) ha, ha
F. Poverty is so much more romantic.
L.H. Oh so very much more.
F. You prefer poverty?
L.H. I dote on poverty – and you?
F. I – oh, of course – of course – wealth is vulgar so – vulgar
L.H. I thought every body knew that all we have belongs to Lucy – I only enjoy the income until she is of age and married.
F. What! – [illegible] really? –

L.M. Have not a cent - Is it not strange!
S. Very - very - ha ha ha (aside, I do believe she means it) (aloud) So strange ha ha (both laugh)
L.M. Wealth is so vulgar -
S. Oh of course of course - very vulgar (aside) What the devil shall I do! - Well I'll be even with her - [illegible] and the [illegible] part of it all is that I am [illegible] same [illegible] of your [illegible], I [illegible] the income of my nephew's fortune until he [illegible].
L.M. Nephew! - his fortune! (aside) Oh, [illegible]!
S. [illegible], what is the matter! [Both laugh]
L.M. Nothing - ha ha ha - so strange, so droll, [illegible] how make my retreat - I feel my [illegible] [illegible] received - at our age -
L.M. Our age! [illegible] for yourself, Sir.
S. [illegible] of hope (aloud) [illegible], my dear madam, [illegible] - sentiment and all that sort of thing is very well for young people, but at sixty years of age -
L.M. Sixty! O sixty!! Oh! -
S. My dear creature -
L.M. [illegible] me -
S. [illegible] cottage - with woodbine - roses -
L.M. Traitor - deceiver!
S. But my dear madam -
L.M. (Shakes him warmly) Oh, you old wretch! -
S. Old wretch! well if it comes to that I am not [illegible] so old as some people [illegible] -
L.M. Monster - Crocodile!! - to think that I might have sacrificed myself on that withered mummy!
S. Withered mummy! Zounds! madam - I'll have you to know that such as I am there's many a girl - yes many a girl [illegible] (aside) [illegible] -
L.M. To think that on such a wretch I would have sacrificed the love of [illegible], Oh! Nettie! Nettie!!
S. What [illegible] me! [illegible] you [illegible]!
L.M. Nothing - nothing -
S. You spoke the name of my nephew, young Nettie -
L.M. Well, yes, I love him! he loves me! [illegible] my heart - [illegible] again, rather than drive

you to despair, I would have sacrificed myself and married you!

F. Thanks! you are very kind! — yet know, Madame, the extent of my self sacrificing generosity, I also love another, and yet rather than drive you to despair I would have sacrificed myself and married you!

L. H. Cruel deceiver — you love another?

F. I do, and have good reasons to hope am loved in return.

L. H. Young?

F. Eighteen summers!

L. H. Lovely?

F. The living image of your ladyship — What more could I say.

L. H. Oh, my prophetic soul — Lucy!!!

F. Yes, Lucy — bewitching Lucy!

L. H. Never! By the terms of her father's will, Lucy cannot marry without my consent.

F. Strange coincidence — by the terms of his father's will, Mattie cannot marry without my consent.

L. H. Oh, you never could be so cruel as to refuse [illegible]

F. H'm — wretch — crocodile — deceiver — without my consent.

Lady H. Generous man, I love him —

F. Your ladyship must ever be my guide [illegible] my suit to sweet Lucy, and Mattie is yours.

L. H. Let us be friends. (holds out both her hands)

F. Thus let us seal the compact which assures connubial bliss (they embrace — Curtain falls)

Act II.

Same as act I. — 4 o'clock P.M. — [illegible]

L. What is to be done. Poor Lucy [illegible] distracted with grief and [illegible] — [illegible] She shall marry ze Count [illegible] She cry — she cry — it is [illegible] her — Vat shall I do! — [illegible] Ven ze Marquis de [illegible], he come just now [illegible] to see Mad Lucy, and he find [illegible] grand scene. [illegible] Marquis [illegible] — [illegible] I must warn ze Marquis before he [illegible].

(Enter [illegible])

Pat. Ah, but the saints are kind to me this day, to give me another sight of your own [illegible] face, darlint!

F. Get away, Mistair Pat. — you not touch me, sir — you a horrid, hateful, stupid, stupid man!

P. That's you me Jewel — hape the swate names on your own Patsy — sure the more the better — dropping from your own swate tongue they are honeyed all over!

F. (pushes him away) H-a-a- I do deetest you —

P. Hallo! what's the matter now — been crying — Eh?

F. Ze mattair! you ask vat ze mattair, ven poor Mees Lucy, she cry all ze day long and she sing so sad, so sad just like — Ah, vat is ze little animal zat sing ven it dies?

P. Is it a schwan, ye mane!

F. Yes, zat is it — she sing so sad, just like a dying swine

P. A schwine! ha, ha, ha.

F. Oh, you may laugh ha, ha, ha, like a great stupid beast, but it is all your fault and poor Mees Lucy she has her heart broken all to leetel pieces and all through you — oh —

P. Broken hearted is she! and on me account! Och! Blessed be they, but she's a foine girl the jewel — full of taste and disarnment — Shure, she's the girl to appreciate merit the darlin — and it's Patrick O'Flaherty's heart she desarves, and git it she would if gone it was not altogether.

F. You! Mees Lucy look at you! Oh, you great big stupid, stupid lizard, you —

P. Lizard is it? Hugh! Shure a lizard is as good as a froggie, any time of day — Shure is it me fault if the girls will love me the beauties? and what's the odds to you so long as me heart is true! — Faith there's no cause for jealousy.

F. Jealous! I jealous of you — I — oh, you make me sick! — I not care for you no more than for nothing at all — there —

P. Not care for me? Oh, shure it's joking you are —

F. Mechante, she got, ze, lettair, of, ze, Marquis — there! — you understand zat? you stupid man —

P. Got it? Well, bad luck to the [illegible]! Ouch! But there is [illegible] — and shure how could she get the letter when I placed it myself in your [illegible]ate hands?

F. Vy, I gave it to her.
P. [illegible] the letter! well you are the brightest [illegible]! — Sure did n't I tell you [illegible] — why did n't you hide it?
F. Vy I hide ze lettair? you ask [illegible] ze top of your voice — "A lettair for [illegible]" and ze door of ze room of miladie [illegible] ze time! — Oh, you got no sense — [illegible] ze lettair?
P. [illegible] but it's run I must and tell the [illegible] matter. (take up dressing case)
F. [illegible] you get ze dressing case of miladie?
P. [illegible] dressing case? Sure [illegible] — [illegible] this case this very blessed morning to put up his things, his "objets de toilette" he calls them, for he [illegible] on a journey the [illegible] night — Oh, but he is a quare ould man — [illegible] pieces, as it were — one part here and one part there — then false teeth, false hair, false whiskers — you should see me build him up.
F. Just precisement little miladie —
P. Well, I must be laving you darlin.
F. Stop, I have got one grand idea!
P. [illegible] your little heart what is it?
F. If we succeed our fortune is made.
P. Oh, but you are the girl can do it —
F. Ze dressing case of miladie it is precisement exactly ze same as ze box you have there —
P. Well?
F. Vel — don't you understand? — Oh, ze stupid one! this evening just before ze Count dress for to come to Miss Lucy, you bring me his case with all ze things in it and we exchange it with ze case of miladie! — there — now — don't you see?
P. Yes, but — what then?
F. Vat then! Vy, you not see! — Vy, then he cannot dress, he cannot go nowhere, and miladie she [illegible] see no one, and ze young Marquis he come to Miss Lucy — don't you see?
P. Yes, but I — —
F. But it will all be one great mistake!

F. Yes, but what shall I say?
M. Oh, say anything, say you called over with [illegible] for [illegible], and you [illegible] kiss her [illegible] hand - and - in fact say anything -
F. [illegible] — [illegible] door,
M. [illegible] — I must see him before here. [illegible] - to [illegible] & say [illegible] — go now go! [illegible] over, [illegible] Marquis
M. My good creature, if you can but [illegible] obtaining miladi's consent to my marriage with [illegible] - your reward shall be [illegible]
F. [illegible], Mr le Marquis - Mr le Marquis is vair good vair generous but I fear it can never be
M. Never be! why? how! It must be, I tell you, must be!
F. [illegible] - [illegible], they are mountains -
M. [illegible] with his army! thus will I [illegible] them!
F. I have discovered something -
M. Speak! what is it?
F. Monsieur he has a rival!
M. A rival! name him and he dies!! [illegible] pulverize the presumptuous creature!
F. Besides miladie, she has other views -
M. She favors him? -
F. Yes -
M. And hates me?
F. Ah, it is much worse, vair much worse - If she [illegible] Marquis nothing would not be so bad.
M. Explain yourself --
F. Cannot Mr le Marquis comprehend?
M. My good creature I never comprehend, I order [illegible] - to comprehend is vulgar!
F. Well then, miladie she love Mr le Marquis!
M. [illegible] poor creature they all do.
F. And she [illegible] Mr le Marquis love her!
M. Love her! I love the [illegible]
F. She [illegible] Mr le Marquis [illegible] she think it is her [illegible], and she [illegible] Mr le Marquis dis very moment.
M. [illegible]

F. [illegible], you go [illegible] — she will [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

M. Then, I am off!

F. No, no, M. le Marquis must see meladie

M. Never! ridiculous!

F. Den dat is all — Dat is well — you go — you never see Mees Lucy no more, and she marry [illegible]

M. Marry him! death and furies! never [illegible] — Name him and I will grind him [illegible]!

F. Monsieur must be calm.

M. I am desperate! (runs round)

F. I have one leetle plan —

M. You shall name your own reward —

F. First monsieur must promise to [illegible] me

M. I do!

F. And [illegible] just excitement [illegible] I [illegible]

M. I will (runs round)

F. [illegible] monsieur, must be calm [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] excitement, and I will [illegible] my plan.

M. The devil you will —

F. Now listen —

M. I am all ears —

F. Meladie she loves you —

M. Yes —

F. She expect you to meet her [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] at four o'clock.

M. (Desperately) I will do it!

F. And you must make her [illegible] you love her.

M. Ye-es — yes — I will — I will —

F. You must arrange an elopement

M. Elope with her — never!

F. Den, all is lost — and de rival —

M. Confound the rival! [illegible] [illegible] elope with her! I'll marry her! [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

F. Marry her! [illegible] [illegible] you [illegible] [illegible]

M. Oh, [illegible] marry [illegible] [illegible] —

F. No, no, you must elope with her

M. Oh, [illegible] [illegible] I will elope —

F. M. le Marquis, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] attention — all will be lost.

M. My dear creature I am all attention —

F. [illegible] M. le Marquis must [illegible] to [illegible]

[illegible] to me.
L. [illegible], vair hard, vair strong, vair passionate -
M. You may trust me.
L. Oh, I have one idea -
M. You amazing creature, you are all ideas!
L. You must know, that Melodie she believes that she and Miss Lucie they resemble each other vair, vair much -
M. What! [illegible] her like my darling Lucie! Absurd -
L. When [illegible] enter ye room and you first see Melodie you [illegible] to think it is Miss Lucy and you [illegible] vair sorry - very much disappointed -
M. [illegible] pretend to mistake her for my Lucie?
L. Certainly - and then suddenly you must recognize Melodie [illegible] you make look vair, vair much delighted
M. [illegible] it is not my dear Lucy!
L. [illegible] of course. After mistaking Melodie for Miss Lucy, you will make one [illegible] grand mistake, and you will mistake Miss [illegible] Melodie [illegible] away with her! [illegible]
[illegible] wonderful! I see it all! [illegible]
[illegible] Monsieur le Marquis must [illegible] for Melodie.
[illegible] - Ah, and the rival?
L. De rival? - Oh, vell ze rival he will have Melodie for a consolation, ha, ha, ha -
M. Ha, ha, ha - splendid! glorious! -
L. [illegible] for Melodie - remember well your part.
M. [illegible] "Melodie for a consolation" ha, ha, [illegible] wonderful mind that girl, ha, ha, "Melodie for a consolation!" aha, ha, ha, - I hear a step [illegible] sweet Lady! (stops) Oh, b-a-pardon me Miss Lucy, [illegible]
Lu. (delighted) Oh, you naughty, naughty wicked man (taps him with her fan)
M. But - how - what - it is! it is!! Lady High flier!!! (falls at her feet) [entreat-
L.H. Rise, Marquis - rise! Oh, if we should be seen - rise & [illegible]
[illegible] mistook me for that child?
M. [illegible] you are [illegible] the likeness is [illegible] me!

L. H. ([illegible]ring) It is a mistake often occurs, the child [illegible] my dress, my [illegible] you see [illegible] the same size, the same figure — we are both called Lucy. (they sit)

M. Yes, but the other Lucy is but a poor insignificant bud — While this Lucy — my Lucy! is a resplendent full blown rose! ha-a! (Looks at [illegible])

L. H. Oh, you wicked, wicked man! (Beats him with her fan) You naughty, naughty flatterer.

M. Sweet one, I love thee! (takes her hand)

L. H. Oh, don't — don't!

M. Be mine! — be mine!! (kneels)

L. H. Don't ask me to elope with you —

M. This very night we must fly! —

L. H. Never! — I'll never, never elope — at what time will you call for me?

M. In the dead of night — at twelve o'clock the post-chaise will be at the door.

L. H. Have four horses —

M. Six! — eight! — ten horses!!!

L. H. You'll never forsake your Lucy?

M. Never!! (Curtain falls.)

Act III.

Same room 10 P.M. — Enter Lady H. in fancy white wrapper - cap etc - Fleurette with dressing case

L. H. (looks at clock) Dear me — nearly ten o'clock and the Marquis is to be here at twelve — I'll hardly have time to dress — rings & calls) Fleurette! Fleurette! (Enter F.)

F. I hope miladie has had one nice leetel nap.

L. H. Yes, child, after the emotions of this day I needed rest — I feel better now — it has refreshed me.

F. Meeladie she look as fresh as one beautiful waterlily!

L. H. We have no time to lose, Fleurette, in two hours — oh, in two hours (presses her hand to her heart.)

F. Oh, there is no hurry — I will have every thing ready for the toilette of meeladie in one leetel moment — See meeladie (take up dressing case) I have packed every thing ready in ze dressing case, to be sure that nothing is forget.

L. H. 'Tis well child.

(meladie

F. [illegible] I think I have a conquest [illegible] a [illegible] for

H. From him! when? – How?

F. [illegible] Mistair Patrick, so young

[illegible] of ze Marquis, he bring it while mee-

ladie she was asleep (hands letter etc to Lady H.)

H. [illegible] to her face, kisses letter) From him!

Sweet, delicate attention – ah, this is love! (opens letter)

Ah! – Fleurette!

F. Yes, meeladie?

H. He says that – that – that – Oh, Fleurette! –

F. Yes, meeladie – what is ze mattair, meeladie?

H. He says that – that – I must be his at once –

this very night, before we leave this house – [illegible]

[illegible] with his private chaplain –

F. [illegible] meeladie (gives her water) it will be nothing

it will be nothing in one moment.

H. The ardent creature cannot restrain his impa-

tience [illegible] for an hour – Oh, this love, [illegible]!

F. [illegible], meeladie, she has no time to lose.

H. Not a moment! Oh, child, what shall I do? –

where will the ceremony take place? we cannot [illegible]

use the grand drawing room.

F. If meeladie she wish the marriage to be private,

[illegible] can better have ze ceremony here

in her [illegible] boudoir (raises curtains [illegible])

H. [illegible] – Oh, the – at such a short notice and a

private chaplain – how romantic!

F. Oh, it will be, vair, vair romantic, meeladie.

H. And so strangely sudden and mysterious

[illegible] – we are losing time, we must prepare

[illegible] temporary altar – there in the boudoir

F. Yes, meeladie – ze [illegible] table will do (places table)

H. [illegible] in white –

F. [illegible] (puts a box on table and

[illegible]

H. Wax candles, Fleurette.

F. Oh, yes, five wax candles (places and lights

candles) [illegible] – and ze beautiful [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] chaplain [illegible]

F. Ze chaplain? Oh, he will stand here – so –
L.H. And I will kneel on this cushion (sets cushion, [illegible]
F. And ze Marquis, he will kneel on zis cushion (places cushion)
L.H. Nearer, Fleurette – (draws it towards her) Oh, Matilda!, Matilda! how rapturously and sentimentally solemn!
F. Meladie must be quick now – see (points to clock) It is half past ten – in half an hour ze Marquis will be here.
L.H. Sooner perhaps! who can measure the impetuous ardor of his love! (approaches table.)
F. Ah I must go give ze orders for ze Marquis and ze Chaplain to be admitted to zis room.
L.H. Mysteriously, Fleurette – remember mysteriously.
F. Oh, yes, certainement vair mysteriously – and now if meladie will prepare herself – (points to table [illegible])
L.H. (Arranging toilet) Sweet and intoxicating mystery! rapturous passion (removes cap and shows bald head) Ah! this is love – this is love indeed! (reenter F.)
F. Now, meladie – all is prepared. When ze Marquis he come, he will be silently and secretly conducted to zis room.
L.H. With the chaplain –
F. Oh, yes, certainly, wiz ze Chaplain, and now – meladie, we will begin – (L.H. sits)
L.H. You must hurry [illegible] yourself, Fleurette, for sure if never more, I would be fair –
F. Ah, meladie will be pairfectly enchanting (opens dressing case) Now – (pause) Bon! – vat! – how! – vat is zis? – vat is zis? (produces [illegible]) [illegible]
L.H. (in bewilderment) What? – what!.
F. And this! (produces moustaches, whiskers etc. [illegible]
L.H. (Screams.)
F. And this! and this! and this! (produces [illegible], suspenders etc, empties case on table – screams)
L.H. (Screams)
F. And ze wig of meladie, it is gone!
L.H. Gone! my wig
F. And ze teeth they are not zere!
L.H. My teeth! (screams)
F. Oh, it is dreadful – it is dreadful! (cries)
L.H. Wretch! viper! – my wig! my teeth! – I shall die!! –

F. (crying) Oh, Patrick! — Zat stupid, stupid Patrick!
When he bring ze letter he have ze dressing case for
Count Fledgeling in his hand — and ze two cases
are just, precisement ze same. — See, meladie (shows
case) and he make one grand mistake — he take ze
case of meladie, and he leave ze case of Count Fledgeling!

L.H. My dressing case! (screams) Gone! (screams) to Count
Fledgeling!! (screams) he will know all! (goes into hysterics)

F. It is one great — one terrible mistake but if meladie will
allow me —

L.H. Run! fly! send to Count Fledgeling! —

F. Oh, it is too late, meladie — It is much too late — but
if meladie will permit — with a thick veil I will so
arrange meladie zat nobody can tell.

L.H. Oh, I had rather die — what will he think? —
what will he say!

F. Oh, I can so arrange meladie, zat she will look per-
fectly lovely — sit down, meladie — sit down —

L.H. (sits) But how, Fleurette! How? my hair —

F. There — (puts Fledgeling's wig on her head and combs
it down) Now, meladie —

L.H. His wig! never! (wants to tear it off. F. holds it on)

F. Wait, meladie, wait — just wait and see — then
I put ze lace, so — and ze flowers, so — Now it
looks vair well — vair well indeed — see, meladie.
And when ze bridal veil is on nobody can tell.

L.H. Oh, my hair! my hair!

F. And now meladie must put in ze teeth —

L.H. His teeth! (screams)

F. Oh, yes, meladie (presents teeth) Open ze mouth
meladie — wide — vair wide —

L.H. But they are too large!

F. Open, wider, meladie — just a leetel wider —
There! now! (triumphantly) See, meladie — now
quick, ze dress (L.H. heard outside) Ah, too late!
(voices outside) This way, sergeant — This way, [illegible]
Friend Father!

L.H. Oh, they come! — I am lost! — Hide me
Fleurette — Oh, hide me! (F. puts on cap covers her with
a blanket)

F. Dere, meladie — dere — they will not know you. (Exit Necktie and Chaplain) [illegible]

N. Where is my pearl of pearls? Where is Lady High-

F. She vill be here in one leetel moment, monsieur le Marquis (points to altar) See all is ready for ze ceremonie.

N. Ha-a - very good my sweet creature. (sees Lady H.) but whom have we here?. Who is the venerable dame?. (Lady H. has an hysterical spasm)

F. Oh, it is one old grand aunt - meeladie have her here for ze sake of propriety.

N. (Bows) Ha-a - ancient female I salute you.

F. She is vair, vair old, and vair, vair deaf.

N. Poor old creature.

F. If she speak you must not mind her. (to Chap.) nobody must mind her, because you see - (touches her brow)

N. Ha-a-a - ye-e-s - I see - ha-a poor old thing (touches his brow - Chaplain touches his brow)

L. H. (Aside) Serpent!.

F. (to Chap.) Sometimes she is violent - pairhaps she will try to interrupt ze ceremonie but you must not not mind, because you know - (touches her brow)

Ch. Oh, yes, of course I see (touches his brow) poor old thing.

L. H. (aside) Wretch!. viper!!. (Ent. Lucy dressed as a bride) Lucy! what does this mean?.

F. Be calm, meeladie - Be calm -

L. H. (tries to rise) No, no - 't is a mistake!.

F. There now, you see - she gets excited - I tell you so -

L. H. Oh. serpent!

F. But nobody must mind her because (touches brow)

N. Of course - of course - (to Lucy) Come sweet one - (Exeunt Neck, Lucy and Chaplain - Lady tries to rise Fleurette holds her down)

F. If meeladie, she move, she go right into ze strait jacket and ze dark closet!

L. H. Strait-jacket!. dark closet!!.

F. Oh, yes, meeladie, certainement!.

L. H. But they will be married. (looks towards boudoir)

F. Ah, zat is nothing, meeladie, nothing at all!

L. H. Oh, Necktie!. Necktie!. I shall die!. - Stop them - stop!!.

F. Now if meeladie speak, I pull of ze veil! (seizes veil)

L. H. Mercy Fleurette! mercy! (falls back)

F. That's right, maladie, be calm, and you will see ze beautiful ceremonie de mariage.

L.H. Marriage — oh! never! I forbid the bans! — I forbid the bans!!! (Struggles to rise — Flew. holds her) help! help!

F. (pulls off wig) Now one word more and I pull off ze wig!

L.H. Mercy! mercy! (falls back hysterically)

F. (Looking back in boudoir) Vell, vy you stop! vy you not go on! It is nothing — I tell you before she try to interrupt ze ceremonie — I tell you so.

L.H. My veil! oh, quick my veil —

F. (Puts on veil) Yes, maladie — now dat is right — maladie look charming.

L.H. Married! Oh, Mattie! my Mattie! — married!

F. Maladie must not mind — it is all one [illegible] — and zen maladie can have Mr Fledgeling.

L.H. Ah, he at least loved me — dear Fledgeling.

F. Oh yes, he love maladie vair much — vair strong.

L.H. What are they doing Flewette?

F. (looking) Ze Chaplain he is just giving ze last blessing — there, it is done — it is finished — they come (Wedding march. Enter Mattie, Barry and Chaplain)

L.H. (Screaming) Villain! deceiver! (F. holds her back)

F. If maladie she not keep quiet I pull off ze veil and throw ze big froth — (L.H. struggles & gives [illegible]) [illegible] warning — if she not good off with ze wig! (Seizes her wig — Lady H. falls back)

M. ([illegible] Barry) Mine at last! mine forever! Henceforth I renounce all the follies of youth, and become a [illegible] Mattie (puts arms round his neck) (Enter Count Fledgeling excitedly, followed by [illegible] Lady H's wig gathered up in [illegible] his hands)

Fl. — What news! what is it! — I forbid the bans!!

F. Ah, it is too late milord, — a little too late.

Fl. Too late! what the devil! (to Mattie) How dare you!

M. Bless us uncle! } they kneel.
Barry Bless us uncle! }

Fled. What have you done! (Lady Highflier.

M. Why [illegible] uncle, you yourself [illegible] what do you mean [illegible] where is Lady Highflier! what are you doing here with [illegible]

H. Miss Lucy? How? what do you mean? where is Miss Lucy? - This is Lady Highflier -

F. Ah, Miss Lucy and meladie they are so very much alike zat no one ever can tell ze one from ze other - I say to meladie zis very morning, I nevair can tell vitch is vitch.

L.H. Oh, viper! [blance!

H. Can it be so! can this really be Lucia? Fatal resem-

Lucy - Do you regret the error?

H. Regret! who could regret being the blissful possessor of so many charms!

H. (Aside) Well, well, 'tis done! Better make the best of it (aloud) But where is Lady Highflier?

L.H. Help! help! rescue me!

H. What! can this be Lady H.! By — she has my hair and my teeth! It was fated; she has so much of me already, she had better have me altogether.

L.H. It was all through that Fleurette - Oh, serpent! I would like to bite you!

Fred. Stop! Stop! not with my teeth -

L.H. Oh, monster! give me back my hair.

F. (Crying) Won't meladie forgive me?

H. Never fear my good creature - I will take care of you.

Lucy Indeed, sir!

Pat. Thank you kindly, young master, but Fleurette and I -

H. Oh, is it so? then look to me for the marriage feast -

Lucy. And to me for the bridal dress.

Sir H. We are fairly beaten, my lady, let us take defeat with a good grace and if possible turn it into victory (holds out his hand) Dear Lady, let us also be happy.

L.H. My hair - my teeth - restore my hair - (they exchange wigs)

Sir H. Come, a last effort of Fleurette's art, will restore you to all your pristine beauty - We shall yet be happy and prove to these youngsters that there is much to say in favor of False Charms! (Curtain falls)

End of act III.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
0 017 400 596 5

PS635
Z9 H8782

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
0 017 400 596 5